THE

Theatrical Observer:

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate nor set down aught in malice."

No. 535 Monday, Aug. 11, 1823. Price 1d.

HAY-MARKET.

Brother "WE,"

Hearing you were better engaged on Saturday evening, I looked in for you at the Haymarket, where they were performing *The Beggars' Opera*, and send a few lines about their "doings."

Madame VESTRIS played *Macheath*, being the last night of her present engagement, previous to her departure for Edinburgh, where she is to play for a limited number of nights. She acted the part with considerable spirit and gaiety, which is the principal characteristic of the worthy Captain, and consequently renders it the most difficult for the generality of singers, especially the *male creatures*, to sustain; at the same time from the rather *immoral*, and not over delicate propensities of this Newgate hero, it appears not the most suitable to be represented by a modest female—modesty forbid the reason why—but of this, as of many other little things, Madame VESTRIS is the best judge, and if she considers herself qualified for the part, that's every thing—she is certainly the best *Macheath* there is among the *ladies*; though "bad, is the best." Yet while we have such *Bloods* of male singers as at present "tread the boards," looking like an overgrown lazy ladies' maid, and singing like any "sucking dove."—why we must take what we can get—and rather than be bored with such nonentities, prefer the best among the ladies, who, upon all occasions, does ample justice to the breeches, especially on the present occasion, which she wore in a very *masterly* manner—she sang throughout in fine style, and was unanimously encored in "*If the heart of a man*," and "*How happy could I be with either*." Miss PATON, as *Polly*, was "vastly fine," She was rapturously encored in "*Cease your funning*," which she executed with great brilliancy and effect. MRS. JONES, that is, laugh and be fat Mrs. Jones, as good-humored, gay, jolly looking, a little body, as any member of the "little Theatre," played *Lucy* admirably, both in singing and acting. TERRY and WILLIAMS were excellent, as *Peachum* and *Lockit*, and acted the quarrel-scene with genuine humor, and fine comic effect. HAMMOND's *Filch* is bad—nothing but slang and vulgarity—no humor, nothing neat or finished about the thing—he looks more like a Smithfield drover than a "flash cove;" little KNIGHT, and J. RUSSELL, are the only real *Filches* now on the Stage. GROUCH or BROUGH, a tall gaunt looking

gent. with a very awkward habit of hobbing his head on one side when he speaks, as if some one was throwing at him, did *Mat o' the Mint* decently, and the Opera went off with great eclat. By the bye, the 'little Theatre,' is the only place where this excellent piece of rich humor and fine satire, can be seen in its original state of perfection, in three acts, with its impurities cut out. At the winter Theatres it is so mutilated, that it is unworthy of its name.

COLMAN's pleasant Farce of *Blue Devils*, created a hearty laugh; and *A Roland for an Oliver*, finished the evening's amusements, Madame VESTRIS performing *Maria Darlington*, in which she sang her favourite air of "*In infancy*," and was encored.—The house was full.

Your's, at leisure,

DICK BUSKIN.

ENGLISH OPERA HOUSE.

ON Saturday night there was a brilliant and overflowing attendance here to see *Presumption*, *Love's Dream*, and the new Comic Piece of "*I will have a Wife*." The romance of *Presumption* thus has proved as attractive as ever, notwithstanding the extraordinary efforts of some puritanical zealots, who have attempted to persuade the public that it contains matter unfit for them in a moral point of view. We inserted the words on the *placard* of these meddling fools, in our last number, and since have seen a placard put forth by the Manager of this Theatre in reply, which, if we have room, we may insert to-morrow. The fact is, there is an *excellent moral* to be drawn from the Drama, if people choose to set about it; but, for our parts, we think it a very superfluous point to trouble our heads about.

VAUXHALL.—To-night these delightful Gardens will be open; and *to-morrow*, they are to present the most splendid efforts of the season, in honour of the anniversary of His Majesty's birth day.

Mr. KEAN is arrived in Cork from Bristol, in the George IV. Steam Vessel, to fulfill his engagement at that Theatre.

Mr. YOUNG returns next season to Covent Garden Theatre.

Mr. LISTON is engaged at Drury Lane, at, we are told, no less than £50 per week!

Miss STEPHENS is also engaged at Drury, at £25. per night!

TO THE PUBLIC.

THE great encouragement this Publication has met with for a period of nearly two years, has occasioned attempts to be made to rival it by imitations of form and style. It is, therefore, respectfully suggested to our friends to be careful, in going to the Theatre, not to be imposed on by having another Paper thrust into their hands as "THE THEATRICAL OBSERVER."

Printed by E. THOMAS, Denmark Court, Exeter 'Change, Strand.

Theatre Royal, Hay-Market.

This Evening, (25th time) the new Operatic Comedy of

Sweethearts & Wives

With New Music, Scenes, and Dresses.

The Music by Messrs. WHITAKER, NATHAN, T. COOKE, & PERRY.

Admiral Franklin, Mr. TERRY,
Charles Franklin, Mr. VINING,
Sandford, Mr DAVIS, Curtis, Mr WILLIAMS,
Billy Lackaday, Mr. LISTON,
Laura, Miss LOVE,
Eugenia, Miss CHESTER, Susan, Mrs. GARRICK,
Mrs. Bell, Mrs C. JONES,

After which, the Farce of

MRS. SMITH;

Or, The Wife and The Widow.

THE PRINCIPAL CHARACTERS BY
Mr VINING, Mr LISTON,
Mr WILLIAMS,
Mrs CHATTERLEY,
Miss BOYCE, Miss WOOD,
Mrs COVENEY,

To conclude with the Musical Entertainment of

THE REVIEW;

Or The Ways of Windsor.

Mr Deputy Bull, Mr WILLIAMS,
Captain Beaugard, Mr JOHNSON,
Caleb Quotem, Mr HARLEY,
Looney Mac Twalter, Mr LEE, Dubbs, Mr Ebsworth,
John Lump, Mr TAYLEURE,
Charles Williams, Mr Lathan, Serjeant, Mr Coveney,
Grace Gaylove, Mrs GIBBS,
Lucy, Mrs C. JONES. Martha, Mrs KENDALL,
Phœbe Whitethorn, [first time] Miss LOVE.

To-morrow, The Barber of Seville, with Pigeons and Crow.

Theatre Royal English Opera House.

This Evening will be performed, (12th time) a new Romance, with new Music, Scenes, Dresses, and Decorations, called

Presumption.

De Lacey, *a banished Gentleman*, Mr ROWBOTHAM,
Felix De Lacey, *(his son)* Mr PEARMAN,
Frankenstein, Mr WALLACK.
Clerval, Mr J. BLAND, Fritz, Mr KEELEY,
Hammerpan, Mr SALTER, Tanskin, Mr SHIELD,
Gypsey, Mr. H. PHILLIPS,
William, *Master Boden*, Guide, *Mr R. Phillips.*
(————) Mr. T. P. COOKE,
Elizabeth, [*Sister of Frankenstein*] Mrs AUSTIN,
Agatha de Lacey. Miss L. DANCE,
Madame Ninon, [*Wife of Fritz*] Mrs J. WEIPPERT,
Safie, [*an Arabian Girl*] Miss HOLDAWAY

After which, *(4th time)* a new Comic Entertainment in 2 acts, called

"I will have a Wife."

Admiral Firedrake, Mr BARTLEY, Binnacle, Mr J. KNIGHT,
Capt. Firedrake, Mr PEARMAN, Mr Dennis O'Leary, Mr POWER
Harry Meltram, *(alias Billy Badger)* Mr BAKER,
Mrs Ogleby, Mrs GROVE, Emily Rosebank, Miss HOLDAWAY,
Mrs Summerfield, Miss L. DANCE, Isabella Hardy, Miss CARR.

To conclude with, (6th time this Season) the Melo Drama of

The Miller's Maid.

The Miller, Mr BARTLEY, George, Mr BAKER,
Giles, Mr RAYNER,
Matty Marvellous, Mr W. BROWN,
Old Granger, Mr ROWBOTHAM,
James, Mr H. PHILLIPS, Gamekeeper, Mr SALTER,
Dame, Mrs GROVE,
Phœbe, *(the Miller's Maid)* Miss KELLY.

To-morrow, Presumption, Is He Jealous, & I will have a Wife